

The Democratic Banner.

\$1.50 PER YEAR

MT. VERNON, OHIO, TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 1918—No. 31

ESTABLISHED 1836

BRITISH LINES HOLD IN FLANDERS

TERIFIC ATTACKS LOSE OUT

Huns Fought To A Standstill At Bailleul

Messines Ridge Is Still In Hands Of British

(Compiled from Associated Press Reports)

The British lines on the Lys front near the Franco-Belgian border are holding well against the terrific drive which the Germans are continuing to make upon them.

All around this sweeping semi-circle created by the enemy attacks to the southwest of the Messines ridge positions, he was fought to a standstill yesterday and last night and at some places the British positions were improved by counters.

The British finally withdrew from Neuve Eglise after beating off attack after attack.

Large results hinged on the battle in the Merville sector where the Germans have effected their furthest westward penetration. They are pushing here for Hazebrouck, occupation of which would cut off important railway communications of the British and make the holding of the line to the northwest extremely difficult.

The Germans attacked no less than seven times in the Merville region, the desperation of their attack being evidenced by the fact that one assault was carried out by troops in five waves.

The Germans similarly have been foiled in their efforts to push in further in the Bailleul region and this important town is still in British hands.

Far to the southwest on the Lys front they have failed in their attempt to drive in back of Bethune. The British in local operations here have advanced their lines and pushed the enemy back. They took 150 prisoners and some machine guns.

SUB. KILLS THREE IN BOMBARDMENT

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

WASHINGTON, April 15—Three children were killed when the German submarine bombarded the port of Monrovia, capital of Liberia, on April 10, the state department was advised in a report today from American Charge d'Affaires Bundy. Three persons were injured.

REAR ADMIRAL WHO DIRECTS RECRUITING



The remarkable record made in recruiting the United States navy up to its present war strength was accomplished under the direction of Rear Admiral Palmer, chief of the bureau of navigation.

SAMMIES GIVE GOOD ACCOUNT OF THEMSELVES

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Sunday, April 14 (By The Associated Press)—American soldiers did brilliant work in the stiff fighting on Friday at Bruille wood in the forest of Apremont, Lorraine. An account of the engagement which has just reached the correspondent through the French army shows that at 4:30 o'clock in the morning after a severe bombardment, 500 selected German troops made an assault and attempted to occupy a first line trench.

The French commander immediately organized a counter-attack in which American troops joined and, after fierce fighting, ejected the enemy.

Shortly afterward, groups of Germans were seen to be creeping into the first line of the American positions, which had voluntarily been left unoccupied. American soldiers dashed forward and engaged in grenade fighting and hand-to-hand encounters, in the course of which they displayed wonderful dash and coolness, and after a severe engagement repulsed the Germans. The enemy suffered heavy casualties and left 24 prisoners behind.

COVINGTON LOSES RAILWAY FIGHT

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

WASHINGTON, April 15—The city of Covington, Ky., opposite Cincinnati, by an opinion in the supreme court, today lost its 30-year fight to oust the South Covington & Cincinnati Street Railway Co. from its streets.

RESTOCK RESERVOIR

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

ST. MARYS, O.—The Auglaize county fish and game association has made an appeal to the federal government for aid in their efforts to restock the Grand Reservoir with fish.

BATTLE IS REACHING THE END

Turning Point Is Near Says War Department

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

WASHINGTON, April 15—The turning point in the battle on the western front is being reached, says the war department's review of the military situation for the week ending April 13, published today. The Germans have failed in their purpose to achieve victory in the field, the statement continues, and will soon be forced to resume their old tactics.

"We must bear in mind," the review says, "that the enemy is waging a battle of annihilation to achieve victory. He is fighting today with the sole aim of annihilating the British armies. Thus, terrain, conquered, counts for little."

"While it must be admitted that German operations since the beginning of the present offensive have resulted in more than a mere ploughing up of part of the allied trenches and the capture of local objectives along a wide front, nevertheless, the aim of the German higher command to obtain a decisive strategic success by these assaults has not been attained."

MARKET WHEAT PLEA SENT OUT TO ALL FARMERS

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

COLUMBUS, O., April 15—An urgent appeal to farmers to market all wheat in excess of seed requirements and flour needs was issued by State Federal Food Administrator F. C. Croxton today.

"The increasing urgency of the wheat situation makes this request imperative," he said.

PRISONERS TAKEN BY FRENCH ALONG MONTDIDIER FRONT

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

PARIS, April 15—On the front above Montdidier, the French made a successful attack last night taking prisoners, the war office announces.

MOTORIZED EXPRESS

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

DAYTON, O.—A motor express line has been established between this city and Cincinnati.

PRO-GERMAN WORK? LIBERTY LOAN SIGNS ARE TORN DOWN HERE

ONE HUNDRED LIBERTY LOAN POSTERS, TACKLED UP ON TELEPHONE AND ELECTRIC LIGHT POLES THROUGHOUT THE CITY SATURDAY, WERE ALL MISSING AT NOON MONDAY, ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL LIBERTY LOAN COMMITTEE. THE SIGNS HAD EVIDENTLY BEEN TORN DOWN.

IF TORN DOWN, THE INFERENCE OF THE LOCAL COMMITTEE IS THAT IT WAS DONE BY GERMAN SYMPATHIZERS, ACCORDING TO VARIOUS MEMBERS. A SEVERE PENALTY IS PROVIDED FOR THIS UNPatriotic CONDUCT AND THE COMMITTEE IS MAKING AN INVESTIGATION TO DISCOVER THE GUILTY PARTIES.

TROOP TRAIN IS WRECKED; FIVE SOLDIERS KILLED

Split Rail Given As Cause Of Disaster; Steel Cars Probably Saved Many Lives.

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

NEW YORK, April 15—Three soldiers were killed, 10 seriously injured and 35 slightly injured early today in a wreck on the Long Island railroad near Central Islip, N. Y. All of the dead and injured are said to be stationed at Camp Upton at Yaphank, N. Y. A split rail is said to have caused the wreck. Later two soldiers, who were seriously wounded, died in the hospital.

Each of five cars which rolled down a 20-foot embankment contained scores of soldiers, many of whom were bruised. The soldiers in the cars which remained on the tracks went to the aid of their companions.

The cars were of steel and to this was attributed the fact that the casualties were comparatively few. Those who were killed were crushed under the car trucks.

Members of a signal corps on the train climbed telegraph poles, and tapping the wires, sent out the calls for aid.

LIBERTY LOAN IS SHOWING TOTAL OF \$620,947,550

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

WASHINGTON, April 15—Liberty Loan subscriptions tabulated today at the treasury showed a total of \$620,947,550, which is \$67,000,000 more than was reported Saturday. This did not include reports from the Minneapolis district, which started its campaign today.

NO LICENSE FOR FRITZ

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

COLUMBUS — Pro-Germans will not be granted saloon licenses in Ohio, the state liquor licensing board has announced. The Lorain county board reported that a saloonkeeper there insisted on keeping a picture of the kaiser in his window. The state board instructed the county board to refuse him a new license when his old license expires in May.

AUSTRIAN MINISTER RESIGNS

Count Czernin's Peace Views The Cause

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

AMSTERDAM, April 15—Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, according to a dispatch from Vienna, has resigned.

Emperor Charles accepted the resignation and entrusted Count Czernin with the conduct of foreign affairs until his successor is appointed.

The recent publication by the French government of the futile peace appeal sent out by Emperor Charles of Austria-Hungary in March, 1917, and the efforts of the emperor and the Austro-Hungarian foreign office to explain this letter to the satisfaction of Germany and the German emperor probably were the most potent influences in bringing about the resignation.

Since he was appointed foreign minister in December 1916, in succession to Baron Burian, Count Czernin has been very active in attempting to bring about peace and the moderate tone of his speeches has been in sharp contrast with that of the German chancellors and foreign secretaries.

In addition to being foreign minister, Count Czernin was premier and chancellor of the dual empire. He is about 61 years old.

NO CESSATION IN FIGHTING; BRITS POUNDING HARD

WITH THE BRITISH ARMY IN FRANCE, April 15 (By The Associated Press)—The battle about Neuve Eglise, near the Belgian border, which has been relaken by the Germans, continued to rage today with the same intensity that has marked it for several days and the British are pounding the Germans hard. Another assault on Bailleul, four miles west of Neuve Eglise, is expected momentarily.

ENSIGN KILLED IN SEAPLANE SMASH

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 15—Ensign Lloyd A. Perry, U. S. N. R., was killed in a seaplane accident in France April 12, the navy department today was advised.

LABOR'S DELEGATE TO FEDERAL BOARD



Labor has selected Frank P. Walsh of Kansas City, Mo., former chairman of the federal industrial relations commission, as its representative on the new federal board which is framing a national labor policy for the government. William Howard Taft will serve on the board in the interest of the employers.

BRITISH REPULSE SEVEN ATTACKS ON NORTH FRONT

Germans Take Neuve Eglise But Are Driven From Bailleul By Counter-Attack.

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

LONDON, April 15—Seven attacks by the Germans in the Merville sector of the northern battle front have been repulsed by the British, who inflicted heavy losses on the enemy, it is announced officially.

Southwest of Bailleul the Germans temporarily penetrated the British positions, but were driven out by a counter-attack. The British have lost Neuve Eglise.

BOHEMIANS CURSE KAISER; CHEER FOR WILSON AND U. S.

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

AMSTERDAM, April 15—Thousands of persons gathered in the streets of Prague, capital of Bohemia, on Sunday, denounced the Germans and cheered the entente and President Wilson, says a dispatch from that city today.

STEAMER WRECKED OFF VIRGINIA COAST

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

BALTIMORE, Md., April 15—The Norwegian steamer, Hermod, has been wrecked off the Virginia coast with the loss of several of her crew, according to word received here today.

U. S. SHIP CYCLOPS IS MISSING

Washington Fears Treachery On Board

Most Mysterious Case In Naval History

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

WASHINGTON, April 15—Orders for greater efforts to find the missing naval collier Cyclops, overdue from South American waters for more than a month, went out today to American ships.

The Cyclops sailed from a West Indian port on March 4 for America. She carried 57 passengers, 15 officers and 221 men and a cargo of manganese.

So far, not one word has come to clear up the mystery of the collier's disappearance. Secretary Daniels today said, however, that he still clung to the hope that the vessel would report as many other navy ships have done after they had been given up for lost.

Naval officials were no nearer this afternoon to a solution of the disappearance of the Cyclops than they were three weeks ago when anxiety over the safety of the ship first developed. The big carrier has simply vanished.

Secretary Daniels said the department had no word that would indicate the presence in southern waters of a German raider. It is the absolute silence of the radio that makes the case one of the most mysterious in naval annals. That fact alone inclines officials to the view that the ship might have been captured by persons aboard for in no other way would it have been possible to silence calls for aid.

HYPHENS TAKEN OUT BY SENATE BILL INTRODUCED

(By Associated Press to The Banner)

WASHINGTON, April 15—Repeal of the federal charter of the National German-American Alliance was approved unanimously today by the senate judiciary committee. The bill of Senator King of Utah for annulment of the organization's charter was ordered favorably reported, despite the recent vote of the organization voluntarily to dissolve.